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CHRISTIAN FRONT GETS MONEY FROM "PARK AVENUE CROWD"

Picketing of WMCA Radio Station on Behalf of Coughlin Will be Renewed -- Other Fascist Activities Planned with New Finances

Rejuvenated by an alleged \$65,000 contribution from the "Park Avenue crowd," the Christian Front of New York is prepared to launch a wide-scale campaign similar to the anti-Semitic pro-Coughlin drive, which was carried out by the same group last spring. The Hour has learned. One of the most important points in the latest drive is the renewal of picketing of the radio station WMCA, in protest against refusal to broadcast Father Coughlin's speeches. The picketing, which was begun last December, was stopped at the outbreak of the war. The Hour learns that permission has been recently secured from the New York police department to picket the station on Sunday afternoons between 3 and 4 p. m., with four pickets at each of the two entrances to the studios.

In Manhattan, the Christian Front has been in dire straits since late spring, when a wide split took place in the group following the arrest of Allen Zoll for attempted extortion of \$7,500 from Donald Flamm, owner of WMCA. The split was between the "moderate" and "radical" factions. The "moderates," while wholeheartedly favoring an anti-Semitic drive of the type fostered by Father Coughlin, believed that the technique of violence, as then exercised by certain of the Fronters, was highly dangerous. The "moderates" were instead anxious to follow this line: "We are not against all the Jews. We are only against the atheistic, Communistic Jews." This they wanted to top off with the statement: "Ninety-five per cent of the Jews are atheistic and Communistic." In other words, they were for subtlety.

At that time the Manhattan division of the Christian Front was headed by Walter Ogden, the Front's executive secretary and treasurer. He was an influential member of the "radicals" who in composition resemble the present-day Christian Mobilizers. Ogden had control of the records and funds of the Front's Manhattan division, and refused to turn these over to the "moderates" when so ordered by the division's executive board headed by John Cassidy, president. Of late, Cassidy has formed a "Committee for the reorganization of the Christian Front," wherein Cassidy's men have re-established themselves slowly and



carefully, and with an entirely new backing. Nothing has yet been learned of the \$35,000 which Ogden had in trust for the Manhattan division, but it is interesting to note that, at the time when the Christian Front started to break up, the hitherto unknown Christian Mobilizers began to form, headed by Joe McWilliams -- who is a close friend of Ogden's.

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#### EX-RUM-RUNNERS AID NAZI SUBMARINES OFF NEW JERSEY COAST

FBI Investigating -- Case May be Completed in Mid-November

Our Philadelphia correspondent learns from a reliable source that the local office of the U. S. Federal Bureau of Investigation is delving into the activities of a group of former rum-runners who have made a number of trips bringing oil and provisions to German submarines lying off the New Jersey coast. The informant predicts that the case will be complete and made public sometime in the middle of November.

The presence of four U. S. Navy destroyers near the entrance to Delaware Bay (300 yards offshore), reported on October 30 by the United Press from Wildwood, New Jersey, may or may not be in connection with this case. Officially the reason for the destroyers' visit to the location was not made known.

On November 1 two U. S. Coast Guard cutters, as well as several destroyers and planes, hastened to a spot some 400 miles southeast of Boston, in order to give aid to the 3,670-ton British freight steamship Coulmore which had flashed a radio signal that a German submarine was attacking her. The indicated location was within the so-called Western Hemisphere Security Zone, and the attacking submarine might have been among those kept in supplies by the Pennsylvania and New Jersey ex-rum-runners.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### MORE ABOUT FASCIST KULLGREN

In our October 14 issue we carried a short item, entitled "New Fascist Weekly in California," and dealing with William Kullgren who is now getting out an anti-democratic, anti-Semitic paper, America Speaks. We wish to add that it is the same Kullgren who until recently published an equally fascist Beacon Light. In Los Angeles, this Kullgren frequently appeared as speaker in the German House but lately has kept away from the House because the local Nazis resented his astrological prediction that "Russia and Germany would unite."

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## WHEELER-HILL, THE BUND'S MAN OF MYSTERY

Of Russian-English Origin and White-Guard Past,  
He is to Play an Important Role in Kuhn's Trial

James Wheeler-Hill, a Nazi Bundite who has been close to Fritz Kuhn, is about to play an important role in his fuehrer's trial, which opens in New York's General Sessions Court on November 9. Lately Wheeler-Hill's importance to the investigating and prosecuting authorities has risen to a point where he rivals Kuhn as a recipient of subpoenas. Through much of the questioning Wheeler-Hill remains a man of mystery. The Hour learns that one of the chief points, on which he disagreed with the federal grand jury in their attempts to question him, was the place of his birth. In the Bund's files, confiscated by a federal investigating committee in 1934, Wheeler-Hill's birthplace was given as Beku, the oil-field center of Russia, but in 1938 Wheeler-Hill told the McNaboe Committee that he was born in the United States. Wheeler-Hill is the Bund's secretary, but it is generally known that he is of Russian origin and speaks Russian fluently. By his political beliefs and European past he is a White Guard Russian. The name, however, might be his own, as it is rumored that while his mother was Russian his father was an Englishman.

### Contact Man Between Kuhn and Vonsiatsky

Wheeler-Hill has been the leading contact-man in this country between the Bund and such White Guard Russian groups as "Count" Anastase Vonsiatsky's fascist party. He has also kept up the ties between Kuhn and the numerous Italian fascist units. Before becoming a Bund official, Wheeler-Hill was employed as an office worker in a New York printing concern. His rise in the Bund's circles was rapid, and for years he was one of the few men Kuhn trusted. Wheeler-Hill appeared quite content with Bund life. At this writing Wheeler-Hill's wife is said to be the best-looking woman in the Bund, and he is quite proud of the claim. Mrs. Wheeler-Hill, a snappy, pert New York lass of Irish extraction, dresses in a fashion seemingly far surpassing her husband's purported \$40 weekly salary from the Bund.

### His Star on the Decline

Of late the White Guard Russian Bundsman's star seems to have faded considerably. Formerly the closest man to Kuhn, the Russian now occupies fourth position in the Bund, being outranked by G. Wilhelm Kunze and August Klapprott (see The Hour for October 14). Wheeler-Hill is a moderate by comparison with other leaders in the Bund. On a number of occasions his speeches had to be "jazzed-up" by other Bundsters who injected a more scurrilous kind of anti-Semitism into the drafts. Wheeler-Hill is against violence unless it can be put across successfully. His official duties connecting him with such militant groups as the Christian Mobilizers have been much against Wheeler-Hill's grain, and occasionally he has grumbled about McWilliams and his boys.

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## THEODORE MARTIN'S RESIGNATION LEAVES NAZIS OF PENNSYLVANIA IN DISMAY

Kunze's Former Bailiwick Disintegrates as One Hundred Members Follow Martin out of the Bund -- Hitler's Pact with Moscow Held as Reason

The resignation of Theodore Martin, leader for the past year of the German-American Bund in the Philadelphia area, has brought to a crucial point the whole Nazi organization in the state of Pennsylvania. Our Philadelphia correspondent reports that Martin's action has already been followed by a hundred members of the local Nazi unit. This estimate was communicated to him by a man who is still a member. The man told our informant that the trade and non-aggression pact between the German Reich and the Soviet Union created an ideological split and the loss of membership; he predicted similar developments throughout the country.

## Came to This Country in 1911

Theodore Martin gave October 9 as the date of his resignation, and stated that he had mailed the resignation to the Bund headquarters in New York. He is a native of Germany, came to the United States in 1911, and became an American citizen in 1920. By profession he is a mechanical and civil engineer, and he resides at 505 Robbins Avenue, Fox Chase. He announced his resignation publicly on October 20, the day after Fritz Kuhn had testified before the Dies Committee that Theodore Martin was the Nazi Bund leader for Philadelphia, Sellersville and Lancaster. "About two weeks ago," Martin said, "I decided to resign as president of the Philadelphia organization. It seemed best, under conditions as they are now, to wait and see which side was right."

## Close to the Bund Camp at Sellersville

Martin was also vice president of the Deutschhorst Country Club, near Sellersville. Early in the fall it was disclosed that the FBI was investigating the Bund camp at Sellersville. Martin was appointed Philadelphia's Bund leader after the departure of G. Wilhelm Kunze for New York to be groomed for Kuhn's heir-apparent as the Bund's national leader. Martin's resignation leaves the Pennsylvania organization of the Nazis in critical shape, with no one ready to fill his shoes, and with the membership on the decline. Sources close to the FBI state that there is no question that Theodore Martin has actually resigned.

## Kunze's Reaction

In New York it is reported in the Bund circles that Kunze is quite upset over the decline of that very same Philadelphia unit and of its influence among the fascists of Pennsylvania, which he had so carefully built up over a period of time. On the other hand, there is a private silver lining to this cloud: the fact of the unit's decline since Kunze's departure for his present position with Kuhn in New York again proves his extraordinary ability and his fitness for the place as next in succession to Fritz himself.

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"DR." MAERZ AND ASSOCIATES WILL BE TRIED ON NOVEMBER 9

Group of Chicago's Silver Shirts and Dearborn Crusaders Charged  
With Smashing Windows -- Questioned on Extortion Notes, They  
Deny Authorship

On Thursday, November 9, the trial of "Doctor" Homer Maerz and several of his associates will be held in Chicago on charges that these men smashed four plate-glass windows and chalked the sign of the swastika in the halls of the Goldblatt Brothers department store at 1623 West Chicago Avenue (see The Hour for October 28).

When arrested, Maerz admitted his presence in the car from which the stones were thrown that broke the windows. He said that his fellow-fascist, George Heppner, 35, was also in the car and threw the stone or stones. Maerz and Heppner were traced through the license number of the car used by them in the raid. The car proved to be the property of Joseph Schimpf, 45, who, on being questioned by the authorities, admitted his membership in Maerz's fascist organizations. Maerz and Heppner said they were drunk at the time of the raid. Still another of Maerz's associates, Fred Pokorny, explained the raid as follows: "I am a member of the Silver Shirts. Every time we try to hold a meeting the hall is taken away from us by Jewish pressure." Maerz also admitted that he was not a graduate of any college or university, but that he called himself "Doctor" because of what he describes as his "social activities."

"Dr." Maerz claims to be the head of the anti-Semitic Silver Shirts of Chicago. He also incorporated a new fascist organization, the Dearborn Crusaders, and was the founder of the Nazi united-front outfit, the German-American Alliance, of which he is still one of the directors. Maerz is 25 years old, and is employed by one of America's largest farm-equipment manufacturing companies, McCormick's International Harvester.

FBI Interested in Extortion Letters

Agents of the U. S. Department of Justice and of the Chicago city police have been questioning Maerz and his chums in connection with the recent mailing of extortion letters, each demanding from five to fifty thousand dollars. Maerz and his associates deny all knowledge of these letters. Business people and rabbis predominate among the recipients of these letters. Of the business men, not all are Jews: one letter, for instance, was received by the executives of Kresge's stores (the Kresges are of Pennsylvania German descent, Gentile). A typical letter reads as follows:

"You are notified to place before next friday morning under the Humboldt monument in Humboldt park the sum of five thousand dollars in used unmarked notes

"Failing on this will be considered as refusal and than you will be kidnaped and slain like the other jewry

The terrible Deutscher-Italian  
Silvershirts Bunds Headq."

